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U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Rhode Island



July 20, 2005

Re-trial under way in alleged race track bribery scheme

Trial began this week in U.S. District Court in Worcester on an indictment charging the corporation that owns Lincoln Park Race Track and two corporate officials with a bribery conspiracy. The alleged intent of the conspiracy was to influence Rhode Island political leaders to ensure more slot machines for the track, which is located in Lincoln, and to ward off competing gambling venues.

This is the second trial in the case. The first, held in Providence, ended in February with not guilty verdicts on some charges and a hung jury on others. The case was moved to Worcester for the retrial because the trial judge, U.S. District Court Judge Mary M. Lisi, granted a motion by defense counsel for a change of venue. Counsel cited the publicity generated during the first trial in Rhode Island.

The case is captioned: U.S. v. Nigel Potter; Daniel Bucci; and Burrillville Racing Association, aka Lincoln Park. All three defendants are charged with conspiracy and various counts of wire fraud. They are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Craig N. Moore and Lee H. Vilker are prosecuting the case for the government.

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